



H.J.Res. 72 – Making Further Continuing Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2008

FLOOR SITUATION

H.J.Res. 72 is being considered on the floor under a closed rule:

- Provides one hour of debate in the House equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.
- Waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clause 9 (earmarks) and 10 (PAYGO) of Rule XXI.
- Waives all points of order against provisions of the joint resolution. This waiver does not affect the point of order available under clause 9 of rule XXI (regarding earmark disclosure).
- Provides one motion to recommit.

H.J.Res. 72 was introduced by Representative David Obey (D-WI) on December 18, 2007.

H.J.Res. 72 is expected to be considered on the floor on December 19, 2007.

BACKGROUND

The House of Representatives passed all 12 appropriations bills prior to the August recess, however only Department of Defense Appropriations (H.R. 3222) has been signed into law. In addition, the President has vetoed the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act due to excessive spending. The 11 remaining House appropriations bills are \$22 billion above the President's budget request.

The House passed the first Continuing Resolution for fiscal year 2008 (H.J. Res. 52), which funded government programs through November 16, 2007, on September 26, 2007, by a vote of 404 to 14 (**Roll Call 911**).

The Second Continuing Resolution was passed by the House as a part of the Conference Report to accompany the Department of Defense Appropriations Act (H.R. 3222) on November 8, 2007, by a vote of 400 to 15 (**Roll Call 1064**). This continuing resolution expires on December 14, 2007.

The Third Continuing Resolution (H.J.Res. 69) was passed by the House on December 13, 2007, and provided continuing appropriations through December 21, 2007.

SUMMARY

H.J.Res. 72 makes continuing appropriations through December 31, 2007.

**Note: This continuing resolution is needed to provide time for the bill to be signed into law.*

It also provides for the heirs of the late Representative Julia Carson.

H.J.Res. 72 extends the authority to provide care and services to veterans who participated in chemical and biological warfare testing conducted by the Department of Defense Deseret Test Center from 1962 through 1973, notwithstanding that there is insufficient medical evidence to conclude that such illness is attributable to such testing through September 30, 2008.

It also extends the government authority to pay for an appropriate grave marker for veterans buried in private cemeteries.

COST

This bill has not been scored by the Congressional Budget Office.

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Brianne Miller at (202) 226-2302.